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Bureau du Coordinateur Spécial
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**United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon Michael Williams
Statement Following Meeting with Minister of Energy Gebran Bassil
Beirut, Lebanon**

Friday, 10 August 2010

Good Morning

I just had a very good meeting with Lebanon's Minister of Energy and Water, Gebran Bassil.

Our talks today focused mainly on Lebanon's plans to survey the waters off the Lebanese coast for oil and gas resources, which could potentially have some significance for the Lebanese economy. Minister Bassil briefed me on current plans and also on the related legislation, which I appreciated. In this context, we also discussed the issue of the delineation of Lebanon's maritime borders.

I also took the opportunity to discuss with Minister Bassil Security Council Resolution 1701 and the situation in south Lebanon, as well as other developments in Lebanon.

I am glad to say that following the tragedy of last week, I think the situation along the Blue Line has calmed. It is very important that all sides continue to act with caution and wisdom, that the Blue Line is fully respected, and that we avoid any further incidents of this sort.

Thank you

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